

TONOPAH DAILY BONANZA

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REPUBLICANS TO ENACT CHILD LABOR LAW

With the decision of the United States supreme court declaring unconstitutional the present child labor law, the whole subject of child labor legislation is reopened in congress. Sentiment among republican members of the senate and house of representatives runs strong for the institution of a constitutional amendment banning child labor. Republican leaders feel that the child labor crusade has from the first been an essentially republican fight and there is no disposition to abandon it with the present setback.

Impetus is given to the movement for a constitutional amendment owing to the fact that the 1922 platform of the republican party declared explicitly that in case "the present law is found unconstitutional or ineffective, we shall seek other means to enable congress to prevent the evils of child labor." The only difference of opinion now existing among republican members of congress is the question of the most effective manner of re-enacting legislation which will stick. The fight for child labor legislation was originally initiated in congress by former Senator Albert J. Beveridge, who has just been nominated in Indiana as the republican candidate for United States senator. Success came "swiftly" owing to the bitter opposition of southern cotton growing operators and their democratic senators and congressmen. Investigations disclosed the fact that 95 and 10 years were being worked long night shifts by southern mill owners. State authorities were either powerless or indifferent to cope with the evil, and it was felt that only by a mandatory federal law could the root of the condition be reached.

EIGHT HOURS PLANNED

One of the reforms in the interest of economy and efficiency in the administration of public affairs which the present administration may inaugurate, consisting with its pledge to put more business into government, is an increase of the length of the working day for the government employees in Washington. At present the maximum working day for the government is 7 1/2 hours. In practice, however, the majority of the departments and bureaus in Washington work only 7 hours a day.

The 7 1/2-hour day for federal employees in Washington is fixed by law and civil service regulations. When applicants for position under civil service file their application it is in the agreement made on the part of the government that they are to work not over 7 1/2 hours a day. Government employees in Washington get Saturday afternoon off for 12 weeks during the summer months. This gives them a working schedule of 45 hours a week during the winter months and a 41-hour week schedule during the summer months.

In addition to this, the employees are given 30 days' vacation on full pay. They are also given a minimum of 15 days and a maximum of 30 days' sick leave on full pay. The differential is optional with the heads of bureaus. It is the custom for all government employees who have not used up their sick leave by mental sickness to add it to their vacation period so that at a minimum government employees in Washington have 45 days away from the office on full pay in addition to their Saturday half holidays during the summer.

The distinction is sharply drawn between government employees in Washington and government employees located elsewhere in the United States. At points outside of Washington federal employees work eight hours a day and do not have other privileges accorded the Washington employee.

The result of this short work day in Washington, together with the amount of "time off" in full pay allotted each employee, accounts in a very great measure for the congestion of work in the various departments in Washington and the exasperating delays which the public experiences when attempting to get things done in the various departments. Several attempts have been made to amend the law and the civil service rules so that the legal working day would be a minimum of eight hours with the exception of Saturday, when, during the summer months it would be four hours. These efforts have been vigorously opposed by the various unions of government employees.

IT'S UP TO RUSSIA

If the Russian government is to be recognized by the United States it must prove that it is a government which "is competent to discharge its international obligations." That is the principle laid down by Secretary Hughes in his reply to representatives of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom who urged the political recognition of the soviets.

Evidently Mr. Hughes does not think that the Russian delegates at Genoa have shown themselves ready to "discharge their international obligations." In that opinion most people will agree with him. The negotiations of Tehtcherin and his comrades have been entirely too tricky to reassure the world as to their honest intentions. Until they substitute a will to pay for a will to evade they must remain virtual outlaws so far as this country is concerned.

Mr. Hughes did not lock, bolt and bar the door of recognition. He disclaimed any attempt to tell the Russian people what sort of government they should choose as long as they choose an honest government. He reiterated his previous assurances of sympathy for the Russian people, a sympathy that has been proved real in the saving of thousands of lives among the famine-stricken districts.

The next move is up to Russia.

INTERNAL REVENUE BUSINESS INCREASE

The house committee ways and means has reported favorably a bill providing for an increase in the number of internal revenue collection districts from 64 to 74, and an increase in the number of collectors of internal revenue. This has been made necessary by the tremendous increase in the amount of business transacted by the internal revenue bureau. In 1911 the bureau collected taxes from 596,856 individuals. In 1921 the bureau collected taxes from 1,052,794 individuals. In addition to this increase in the number of individuals who transacted business with the bureau, there was an overlapping increase in the amount of business handled by the bureau. This is best illustrated by the statement that practically all of the taxpayers who dealt with the internal revenue bureau in 1911 had but one transaction with the bureau. Under the system which has grown up since permitting taxpayers to pay their taxes in installments, the total number of transactions by the internal revenue bureau in 1921 exceeded 20,000,000. It is quite obvious that this necessitated a tremendous increase in the work of the internal revenue bureau. It is believed that by the addition of 10 internal revenue collection districts and a corresponding increase in personnel the congestion of business which now exists in the internal revenue bureau will be relieved as soon as the work can be kept current. The establishment of the 10 new districts and the increase in personnel and other expenses will be about \$500,000 a year.

TWO TARIFF OBJECT LESSONS

In a recent address, Senator Willis of Ohio declared: "American markets are being flooded with European-made goods offered for sale in this country at prices of only a fraction of what American labor costs. If American workingmen are to be employed and if American industry is to thrive, we must write on the statute books at the earliest possible moment a protective tariff law. If there is unnecessary delay in the senate, after full discussion, I am in favor of amending the rules of the senate so as to make it possible for the majority to function properly and to do business promptly."

There are those who cling to the fatuous belief that such warnings are merely cries of "Wolf!" They believe that American initiative, invention and industry can compete with anybody, anywhere and at any time. But this is the veriest sophistry. In any legitimate test American skill, ingenuity, industry and inventiveness can maintain themselves against all competitors. But there is nothing legitimate in pitting the well-paid, well-housed American worker against the poorly paid, the poorly housed and underfed foreign worker.

A striking confirmation of the accuracy of Senator Willis' statement is contained in recent news dispatches dealing with such diverse commodities as window glass and lemons. These dispatches told of 136,000 cases of Palermo lemons being en route to New York, and on the same day orders for 136,000 cases of window glass were placed in Belgium by San Francisco importers.

It might be interesting to know how the lemon raisers of California and Florida regard the importation of 136,000 cases of lemons from Palermo and how the glass makers of Pittsburgh and other sections of the east regard the importation of 6,500,000 square feet of window glass. It is idle to contend that the California and Florida lemons are not at least the equals of the Italian; or that the United States cannot turn out window glass that is as transparent and enduring as the Belgian. Of course, the issue is not one of comparative merit, but of relative prices.

In the nature of things, Italy can produce cheaper lemons than California and Florida, and Belgium can produce cheaper window glass than Pittsburgh. It is to equalize the cost of production, and to produce necessary revenue, that tariff duties are levied.

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the District Court of the Fifth Judicial District of the State of Nevada, in and for the County of Nye. In the matter of the Estate of Joe Michel, deceased.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the undersigned is the Public Administrator of the County of Nye, State of Nevada, and has taken charge of the Estate of Joe Michel, late of said County, deceased.
ALL CREDITORS having claims against said estate are required to file the same, with proper vouchers attached, with the Clerk of the Court, within forty days of the first publication of this notice.
Dated May 1, 1922.
RAY W. PIERCE, Public Administrator.

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